



Alfalfa Seed 2007

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2007 Acreage, Production, Value, and Leaf Cutter Bees

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Alfalfa seed production in Montana for 2007 was estimated at 4.4 million pounds, up 3% from the 2006 production. Harvested acreage at 12,200 was up 1,500 acres from last year's acreage of 10,700 acres. The average yield was estimated at 360 pounds per acre, down from the 399 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 533 pounds per acre, up from 518 pounds in 2006, and non-irrigated yields averaged 127 pounds per acre, down from 215 pounds last year.

Producers who used leaf cutter bees in 2007 used an average of 3.2 gallons of bees per acre, up 0.2 gallons from a year ago. Leaf cutter bees were used on 66% of the reported

irrigated acres at the rate of 3.2 gallons per acre. For those fields under irrigation producers who used leaf cutter bees on average saw only a negligible increase in yield. While at the same time vast majority of non-irrigated producers did not use leaf cutter bees.

Proprietary varieties made up 68% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 26% of the production and common certified varieties represented 6%.

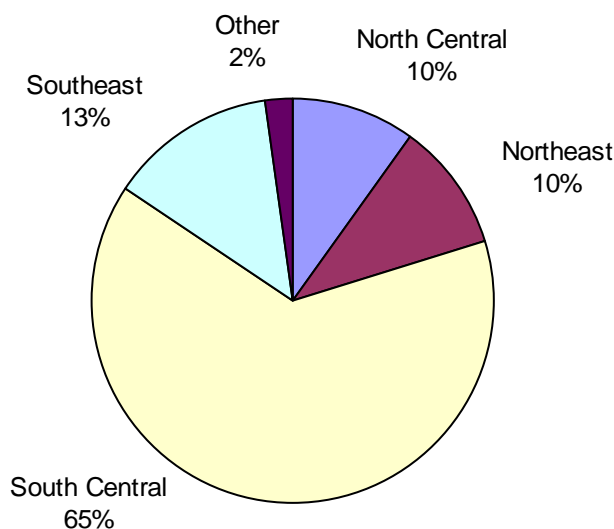
The average price received for the 2007 crop was \$1.34 per pound, up \$0.21 from last year's average price.

Montana Leaf Cutter Bees 2003-2007

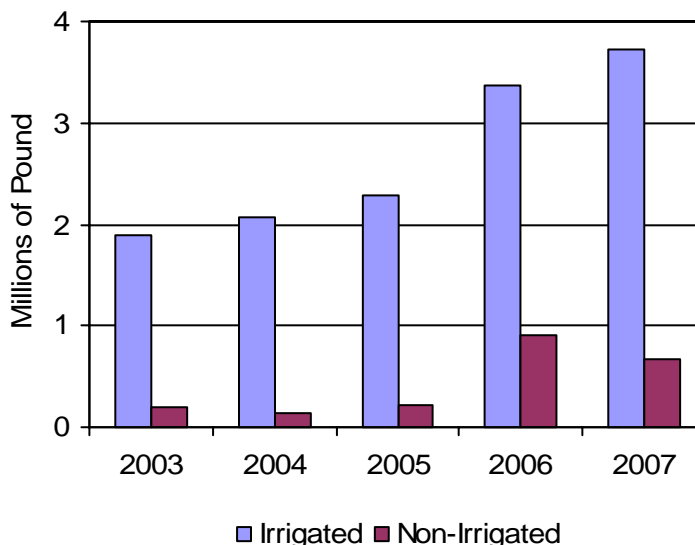
Year	TOTAL	IRRIGATED		NON-IRRIGATED	
	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre
2003	3.8	39%	4.2	12%	1.1
2004	3.8	33%	4.2	11%	--
2005	3.2	44%	3.3	24%	--
2006	3.0	45%	3.0	--	--
2007	3.2	66%	3.2	--	--

Years with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

2007 Alfalfa Seed Production by District



2003-2007 Alfalfa Seed Production



Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2007

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,100	403	443,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	1,200	372	446,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Central	5,200	543	2,823,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Southeast	4,200	139	584,000	300	216	65,000	3,900	133	519,000
Other Districts	500	188	94,000	6,700	582	3,664,000	1,300	109	142,000
Montana	12,200	360	4,390,000	7,000	533	3,729,000	5,200	127	661,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2006

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	1,500	390	585,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	1,500	410	615,000	600	500	300,000	900	350	315,000
South Central	5,100	492	2,507,000	4,400	551	2,424,000	700	119	83,000
Southeast	2,400	197	473,000	300	177	53,000	2,100	200	420,000
Other Districts	200	450	90,000	1,200	492	590,000	500	170	85,000
Montana	10,700	399	4,270,000	6,500	518	3,367,000	4,200	215	903,000

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, Production and Value for Montana from 1998-2007

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Price per Pound	Total Value	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production
		Pounds					Pounds			Pounds	
1998	18,000	275	4,950,000	\$1.20	\$5,940,000	11,200	375	4,202,000	6,800	110	748,000
1999	20,000	265	5,300,000	\$1.20	\$6,360,000	11,000	404	4,445,000	9,000	95	855,000
2000	19,000	277	5,260,000	\$1.19	\$6,259,400	11,500	391	4,500,000	7,500	101	760,000
2001	9,000	367	3,300,000	\$1.27	\$4,191,000	6,700	477	3,199,000	2,300	44	101,000
2002	6,700	296	1,980,000	\$1.15	\$2,277,000	5,000	370	1,848,000	1,700	78	132,000
2003	6,200	335	2,075,000	\$1.01	\$2,095,750	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	189,000
2004	5,800	382	2,214,000	\$0.99	\$2,191,860	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000
2005	6,100	413	2,519,000	\$1.13	\$2,846,470	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000
2006	10,700	399	4,270,000	\$1.13	\$4,825,100	6,500	518	3,367,000	4,200	215	903,000
2007	12,200	360	4,390,000	\$1.34	\$5,882,600	7,000	533	3,729,000	5,200	127	661,000

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